

Heidi Drygas  
Commissioner

[www.labor.alaska.gov](http://www.labor.alaska.gov)



P.O. Box 111149  
Juneau, AK 99811-1149  
907.465.2700  
[commissioner.labor@alaska.gov](mailto:commissioner.labor@alaska.gov)

## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

April 3, 2017

No. 17-20

For more information: Deborah Kelly, Labor Standards and Safety Director  
907-269-4961, [Deborah.Kelly@alaska.gov](mailto:Deborah.Kelly@alaska.gov)

### **Annual Governor's Safety and Health Conference Brings Together Alaska Industries**

ANCHORAGE, Alaska— The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Governors Safety and Health Conference will take place April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> at the Egan Center in Anchorage under the theme of "Safety – Investing in the Future." This two-day conference brings together Alaska businesses, safety professionals, and community organizations to work on challenges facing employers and workers in their efforts to prevent workplace injuries and illnesses.

This year's conference will feature award winning speaker and safety professional Mike Rayburn as the keynote presenter. With two TED talks and an engaging presentation style, Mr. Rayburn teaches audiences across the country how to improve performance and manage change. This year's theme takes into account the state's economic climate and the importance of safety and health even when financial realities make improvement difficult.

"When businesses have to make tough budget decisions, safety and health programs can become a target. It's important to remember that an investment in safety is an investment in the future," said Deborah Kelly, Director of the Labor Standards and Safety Division at the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development. "That's the theme of this year's conference, and we hope every participant leaves with knowledge that will increase their effectiveness in keeping workers safe and healthy."

The conference will offer numerous classes from safety and health experts. Awards presented by the Alaska Safety Advisory Council recognize employers who have achieved excellence in protecting their workers, and sharing their successful strategies and innovations for improvement. The event is geared toward attendees representing all of Alaska's diverse industries and is supported by the Alaska Occupational Safety and Health Consultation and Training section of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

The conference is fully funded through sponsorships, exhibitors, and registration fees. Registration and schedule information for the event can be found at [www.akgshc.com](http://www.akgshc.com).

###